DAILY REPORT

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ABE VOICES SUPPORT OF NEW U.S TRADE POLICY

OW240621 Tokyo KYODO in English 0526 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] New York, Sept. 23 KYODO -- Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said Monday Japan supports a new U.S. trade policy announced earlier in the day by President Ronald Reagan that reconfirmed the U.S. commitment to maintain and strengthen a free and fair trade system. Abe told the Japan society here that Japan favors the new trade package, which stressed the role the U.S. plays in promoting the free trade system and called for cooperation among countries to this effect. The most important issue at the moment for Japan's diplomacy is to rectify the trade imbalance between the U.S. and Japan, Abe said. He said both countries should make further efforts to tackle the matter from a long- and medium-term perspective through "macroeconomic policies," including correction of the overvaluation of the dollar against the yen -- a factor making U.S. products less price-competitive in international markets.

Abe, while urging the U.S. to remain committed to the free trade system, also expressed Japan's readiness to further increase domestic demand and improve U.S. access to the Japanese market to help ease the rising protectionist sentiment in the U.S. Congress. In this connection, the foreign minister emphasized the importance of working out a common strategy from a long-term perspective, including promotion of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations. He also called on the U.S. to increase its investment in Japan.

Abe also laid stress on Japan's efforts to strengthen its defensive capability by citing figures from the country's recently worked out mid-term defense program, which envisages a 5.4 percent annual growth in defense spending over the next five years -- higher than the 3 percent target by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

MINISTERS CONFER ON CURRENCY, TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

OW230801 Tokyo KYODO in English 0742 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] New York, Sept. 22 KYODO -- Japanese Foreign and Finance Ministers Shintaro Abe and Noboru Takeshita agreed here Sunday the statement made by an extraordinary meeting of top finance officials from five leading industrial countries can be of use to Japan in its market-opening and other economic efforts. Abe and Takeshita met at Abe's hotel for about 40 minutes Sunday night (Monday morning Japan time) to exchange views on the results of the financial talks, Japan-U.S. trade friction and the domestic political situation. Abe is here to attend the 40th session of the United Nations General Assembly and Takeshita is in town for the financial talks.

The ministers agreed the statement calling for market-opening, expansion of domestic demand and adjustment of exchange rates was useful to Japan which is now trying to come to grips with those problems. They also shared the view that the United States called the financial meeting to set up concerted action against protectionism including adjustment of the yen-dollar exchange rate and other currency measures. On whether intervention in the exchange market is necessary as a step to raise the yen's rate against the dollar, the ministers agreed to watch the development of the exchange rate for a while to check for possible effects by the statement on the market.

Takeshita also said the other participant countries highly appreciated Japan's plan decided recently to double its official development assistance (ODA) in seven years. On the domestic political situation, Abe and Takeshita said that they agreed to go ahead in concert with each other and maintain close ties. The two are seen as rivals for the future leadership of Japan's ruling Liberal-Democratic Party.

ABE, DE CUELLAR DISCUSS MIDEAST PEACE PROSPECTS

OW240215 Tokyo KYODO in English 0155 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] New York, Sept. 23 KYODO - Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe asked U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Monday to make further efforts to bring about a peaceful solution to the five-year-old war between Iran and Iraq. Abe specifically called for De Cuellar's assistance in bringing the two countries to the U.N. Security Council. Expressing hope that Iran and Iraq will talk to each other at least through the U.N. secretary general, Abe said Japan is ready to push De Cuellar's efforts for dialogue between the two countries. One of the few countries to maintain good relations with both Iran and Iraq, Japan has been trying to find ways to settle the regional dispute. Abe, here to attend the U.N. General Assembly session, visited De Cuellar in his office.

Earlier in the day, Abe held talks with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan and they agreed to continue efforts to create a climate favorable for a peaceful settlement of the war. Though Abe ruled out the possibility of significant progress in peace efforts for at least the time being, he said a step-by-step easing the dispute is a realistic approach to permanent peace in the area. Israel was a major topic of discussion in a meeting between Abe and Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir Al-Masri. Quoting a message from Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Al-Masri praised Japan's position on the Middle East problem. Abe told Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in their recent meeting in Tokyo that relations between Japan and Israel will not move ahead so long as the Israelis maintain a "rigid" stance on the Middle East question.

EXPORTS SPARK SECOND QUARTER ECONOMIC GROWTH

OW201405 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO — Heartened by brisk exports, Japan's gross national product (GNP) in the April-June period rose at an inflation-adjusted annual rate of 7.9 percent, accelerating considerably from a revised 0.8 percent growth in the previous quarter, the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said in a preliminary report Friday. On a quarterly basis, the GNP, which measures the nation's total value of goods and services, grew 1.9 percent in the quarter from the January-March period, when it showed a revised 0.2 percent rise. EPA attributed the sharp growth largely to increased exports led by expanded car shipments to the United States and increased color TV exports to China.

Japan is certain to attain the government target of a 4.6 percent real growth for the current fiscal year ending next March 31, the officials said. Exports have been slackening in recent months largely because of uncertainty about U.S. economic growth. Of the 1.9 percent quarterly growth, the EPA said exports accounted for one percentage point and domestic demand 0.9 points, leaving the economy still oriented to exports. The EPA said the GNP in the April-June quarter totaled 233.56 trillion yen in real terms at an annual rate.

The EPA said exports in the period showed a real 4.6 percent growth in a turnaround from a 1.3 percent drop in the preceding quarter. But exports are likely to slow down in the June-September quarter, the officials said. Imports levelled off from the previous period, rising a mere 0.1 percent due mainly to a decline in imports of crude oil and other raw materials.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GROUP'S VISIT TO SEOUL

Spokesman's News Conference

SK231248 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1100 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Pak Yong-su, spokesman for our side's delegation to the North-South Red Cross talks, held a news conference at his hotel this morning in connection with the inhumane and provocative acts committed by the South side during our visiting group's stay in Seoul. Noting that the activities of the Red Cross art troupes and home-visiting groups of the two sides in the areas of the other side were about to end, he stated that there were several things that should be made clear in connection with some obstacles that came up in the work of the Red Cross art troupe and home-visiting group of our side.

He said: On 11 September, a name list of the families and relatives with whom the members of the home-visiting group hoped to meet and other data were exchanged, along with a name list and photographs of the members, in accordance with an agreement reached between the two sides. Regrettably, the reality we have encountered here, however, was that the South side was very insincere in locating those with whom the members of our side wanted to meet. According to what has become available, even though there were many families and relatives with whom the members of our home-visiting group wanted to meet, the South side did not locate them.

He further said: Even according to unofficial information and also according to what has become known unofficially through reporters, not only are countless families and relatives of the home-visiting group living in Seoul, but also not a few people had voluntarily come to the hotel in a bid to meet with families and relatives from the North. He continued: Although we asked the institutions concerned in the South side to locate the families and relatives of the members of the home-visiting group of our side as soon as possible and arrange for their reunion, the South side did not arrange for such a reunion giving various excuses. And now the South side is saying that it is impossible for them to meet with their families and relatives because of insufficient time.

Reminding the South side of the fact that when the visitors arrived in the area of the South side, in accordance with the agreement, the South side would be responsible for providing the visitors with all they needed.

He said that the South side's conduct was quite regrettable and extremely hard to understand. He then said: It is impossible to know who was responsible for all of these things. However, such a rude act as checking the personal effects of the Pyongyang art troupe and the members of our home-visiting group has been committed. In particular, because the suitcases belonging to actresses of the Pyongyang art troupe had been wildly searched and even the locks had been smashed, two actresses tho are scheduled to leave for Pyongyang in a few hours have no suitcases to put their belongings in. He added: Such a thing has occurred even though an agreement had been reached on guaranteeing immunity with regard to personal effects.

He also cited instances where the members of our home-visiting group were asked provocative questions and were attacked by some agents wearing the insignia of a guide. Reminding the South side of the fact that some unidentified people who participated in a banquet arranged yesterday by the Red Cross of the South side heaped outrageous language slandering our political system on the members of home-visiting group, he said: The members of the South side appearing there and officially apologizing, the situation was brought under control. However, the members of the home-visiting group of our side could not enjoy the dinner at the banquet because of this incident. He sdded that some members of the South side's Red Cross knew well about this incident. Saying that the guides of the South side were very uncooperative with our reporters in their coverage activities, he said an unpleasant situation almost occurred because of their hindering activities. The spokesman of our side said that he had officially lodged a protest with the South side against all of these things.

Seoul Citizens on Art Troupe

SK240526 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul September 22 (KCNA correspondent) -- The second-day performance of the Pyongyang art troupe given on September 22 is continuously evoking repercussions among Seoul citizens and people of all walks of life in South Korea. Fascinated with national sentiments which overflew the performance, figures and people of various strata in the South are unsparing of praises for the fact that the northern half of the republic has developed culture and art in a chuche-oriented way in conformity with national emotion and contemporary aesthetic sentiments and for its high level.

A music professor of Yonse University said: The art performance of the North is overflowing with national sentiments. Songs and dances are good to hear and see as the traditional characteristics of national art are well preserved.

A vocalist said with excitement: I had never imagined that kayagum performance is so peculiar and excellent. Kayagum solo of the North has gripped my heart.

A guide said that the art performance of the North is impressive and its ensemble has reached a very high level. This is a foundation for the continued development of art in the North, he added.

An opposition figure of South Korea said: The skill of performers is high. They sang well. But their dance is better. They accord with the tastes and sentiments of young men today, while carrying forward the old things.

"Dance Trio" and "Chaenggang Dance" were better to me. They must have left good impressions at Seoul citizens. A professor of the art academy said: The performance of the art troupe of the North was very excellent. In particular, kayagum solo was very wonderful. I wanted to mount the stage and take the hand of the performer to praise her. But I could not do so because I was afraid of the eyes of people. So I feel pain in my heart.

A "national assemblyman" said: I appreciated the performance with great interest. Especially, I was delighted to see the "Dance With Tambourines". It was vital and the skill was high.

An employee of the "National Theatre", unable to repress his emotion, said: It is the first time since the opening of the theatre that such thunderous applause as this time burst forth from here.

A reporter of HANGUK ILBO said: The scene of fairies descending from Mt. Kumgang is the one which one could see in dream only. Stage art has reached a very high level.

A reporter of TONG-A ILBO said: The North and South should pool efforts, visiting each other. Certainly, the art of the North is peculiar.

An inhabitant in Seoul said: Every number conveyed the national spirit. As a member of the same nation, I felt pride. Songs are all those our nation sang in the past and dances are those in which the national spirit is alive. In the performance I saw part of the politics of the North. The North and South should unite efforts in art, too.

Noting that he was particularly delighted to hear the folks songs among numbers of the performance of the Pyongyang art troupe, a "national assemblyman" said it is necessary to realise cultural and art exchange on a broader and larger scale.

An official of the theatre said: It is unjustifiable not to allow to televise the art performance of the North. I cannot understand why such performance was not allowed to be televised.

Kaesong Welcomes Recurning Group

SK231055 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Kaesong September 23 (KCNA) -- The members of the Red Cross art troupe and home-visiting group of our side led by Son Song-pil, chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, arrived in Kaesong at 12:45 today through Panmunjom after successfully concluding their visit to Seoul. The Kaesong citizens warmly welcomed them. Upon arrival in Kaesong, the members of the art troupe and home-visiting group laid a floral basket before the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song erected on Mt. Chanam.

COMMENT ON SOUTH'S 'UNPLEASANT' ACTS DURING VISITS

SK231333 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0754 GMT 23 Sep 85

[NODONG SINMUN 23 September article: "Cold Water Poured on Compatriotic Love"]

[Text] Staying in Pyongyang, the Red Cross art troupe and home-visiting group of the South side gave performances and met with their families and relatives. Some of the members of the South side, who came to Pyongyang as guests, unscrupulously committed unpleasant acts during their stay.

When a mother living in the North was divulging her innermost thoughts to her son from the South in a home-like atmosphere, members of the accompanying group from the South meddled in their conversation. In some instances, even before the members of the home-visiting group of the South side finished their greetings with their families and relatives, they urged the members of the South side to thrust some gifts and souvenirs into their hands. In this way, they were engrossed in tempering the home-like atmosphere by making the members of the South side utter such unexpected things as "let us go to South Korea and live there." This actually happened: When some South Korean photographers unexpectedly rushed into the place where a family reunion was taking place, a member of the home-visiting group of the South side suddenly thrust various things into the hands of his relatives of our side, quite coercively.

Had he not been pressured in advance, how could he do such an unnatural thing all of a sudden? Whenever the members of the home-visiting group appeared to start talking about something genuine while conversing with their families and relatives, members of the accompanying group of the South side quickly ended their conversation by highhandedly thrusting recorders in their faces.

Such acts by the members of the accompanying group of the South side are acts that are extremely against not only morality and propriety but also against the humanitarian principle of the Red Cross.

These are not the only brazen-faced acts that have been committed by the members of the South side: On the morning of 22 September, one of the accompanying members of the South side who was staying in the Koryo Hotel in Pyongyang gave one of our side's guides in charge a sealed envelope, saying it was an souvenir. He said: Books for children. Nothing special.

However, inside the envelope was a South Korean magazine called SONYON CHUNGANG [children's magazine published by CHUNGANG ILBO] containing anticommunist and slanderous photographs and articles preposterously smearing us. Prior to this, on the evening of 20 September, one member of the home-visiting group of the South side gave a guide at the hotel [name indistinct] engraved with letters reading "prevailing over communism" and "defending against spies," saying it was a souvenir.

Such rude acts by the members of the South side that have nothing do with the exchange visits of the Red Cross art troups and home-visiting groups, of course, were rejected. When held accountable for such rude acts by our side's guides, they went back to their hotel rooms and did not try to come out, probably because they were embarrassed. If it is true that they came to Pyongyang to rejoin the blood ties of the families who have lived in separation for the past 40 years as they claim it is, their acts are all the more shameful.

NODONG SINMUN URGES FREE NORTH-SCUTH VISITS

SK230730 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2225 GMT 22 Sep 85

[NODONG SINMUN 23 September article: "Let Us Discover a Clue to the Reunification of the Fatherland by Realizing Free Visits"]

[Text] In this meaningful year when the 40th anniversary of the fatherland's liberation is observed, the Red Cross organizations of the North and the South have given joy to all people by agreeing to seek free visits comprehensively in the implementation of the agenda items of the Red Cross talks and by exchanging the Red Cross art troups and homevisiting groups as a form of the pilot projects.

The persons in charge of the Red Cross organizations of the North and the South have visited the area of the opposite side by leading the Red Cross art troupes and home-visiting groups. This will provide a good opportunity to eliminate the misunderstanding and distrust between the North and the South, seek national harmony and unity, and boost the people's zeal for reunification. As a project carried out for the first time in the history of the 40-year division, this will be helpful in setting a precedent for mutual visits and making a breakthrough to this end, and will create a favorable atmosphere for many other North-South talks.

The exchange of the Red Cross art troupes and home-visiting groups has been arranged through the active proposal and efforts of our side to improve the atmosphere for the Red Cross talks and make the humanitarian talks contribute to the cause of the fatherland's reunification by opening a breakthrough in seeking mutual visits between the North and the South at least in the field of the Red Cross humanitarianism.

Since ancient times, our people have lived in harmony, while making free contacts and visits, as well as conducting free exchange of letters, through a single transportation and communications systems in the same land. However, because of the division of the country and the severance of the transportation and communications systems imposed by the foreign forces, our people have suffered the great misfortune of being unable to meet their families and relatives, and cannot send greetings to each other, even if they are in areas close to each other. Forty years have already passed since the first day of the national division. During this period, the hairs of the husbands and wives separated from each other when they were still young have turned grey, and those born following the liberation have now become fathers and mothers. The waters of the East and West Seas flow freely between the North and the South, and mutual visits are paid with foreigners living across the oceans and letters are exchanged with them. Yet our people cannot meet each other and cannot send greetings to each other, even though they live in nearby areas where only 1- or 2-day travel is necessary for mutual visits. This is the great misfortune and agony that our nation is suffering. To end this misfortune and agony of our nation at an early date, the severed transportation and communications systems must be connected, and free mutual visits and the free exchange of letters guaranteed.

Connecting the severed transportation and communications systems and realizing free mutual visits between the peoples of all strata and the individual personages are an issue that should be preferentially settled in successfully seeking the political, economic, and cultural exchanges and collaboration between the North and the South.

In the fifth item of the 10-point political agenda, Comrade Kim Il-song specifically elucidated the policy the confederal state will implement in the transportation and communications fields, and the way to implement it. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught as follows: Fifth, the DPRK should reconnect the severed transportation and communications systems between the North and the South and guarantee the free utilization of the transportation and communications facilities in all parts of the country.

This policy of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the most just one which makes it possible to eliminate the heartbreaking sufferings of the nation by destroying the barriers of the division and reconnecting the severed national relations.

If free contacts and mutual visits are realized between the people of all strata and the individual personages of the North and the South, the distrust and misunderstanding accumulated between the North and the South during a long period will be eliminated, national harmony and unity will be further strengthened, and a new vista will be opened in seeking political, economic, and cultural collaboration and exchanges between the North and the South. Free mutual visits between the North and the South will make it possible to discover a clue to the reunification of the fatherland, the supreme task of the nation.

Reconnecting the severed transportation and communications systems and realizing free mutual visits are a comprehensive way to relieve the agony of the separated families and relatives.

At the eighth and ninth rounds of the North-South Red Cross talks, our side put forth a new proposal and a draft agreement to discuss the five agenda items as a package and realize the free mutual visits between the separated families and relatives as a main and comprehensive way of implementing the agenda items.

Our proposal for discussing the five agenda items as a package and seeking free mutual visits as a main project is a positive one which makes it possible to fulfill the urgent desire of all people, the separated families and relatives in particular, and is a most rational and effective one which makes it possible to settle the humanitarian issues of the five agenda items at one time.

It is clear to all people that allowing those separated from their families and relatives because of the division to freely visit the North and the South by themselves and find out the whereabouts of their families and relatives is the way to find out the whereabouts of their families and relatives most quickly, most easily, and most correctly.

Destroying the barrier of the division and paving the way to realizing free mutual visits to relieve the agony of the separated people and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland are an urgent task of the nation that cannot be delayed even for a moment. For the early accomplishment of this task necessary conditions should be guaranteed.

For free contacts and mutual visits by the personages and people seeking the exchanges and collaboration between the North and the South, and reunification, we will always keep the door open in welcome, and will fully guarantee the security and freedom of activities of the personages and the people who will pay mutual visits. We hold that the South Korean authorities must guarantee the free activities of the political parties, organizations, and individual personages seeking the exchanges and contacts between the North and the South, and all necessary conditions for free mutual visits.

At a time when the voices of the people calling their beloved families and relatives are ringing through the North and the South, all must boldly and unhesitatingly turn out in the struggle to destroy the barrier of the division and pave the way to free mutual visits, if they have a conscience with regard to the nation.

We will advance hand in hand with anyone who turns out in the pan-national struggle to accelerate the reunification of the fatherland, regardless of his political views, religion, occupation, and past. Our wise and patriotic people will certainly accomplish their historic mission by destroying the barrier of the division with the concentrated efforts of the whole nation, by expanding contacts and exchanges through the realization of free mutual visits, and by achieving the cause of the fatherland's reunification —the supreme task of the nation.

'SINCERE EFFORTS' FOR NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE NEEDED

SK240347 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2350 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Unattributed talk: "Our Sincere Efforts To Advance North-South Dialogue"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught: Our party and the government of the republic will sincerely make all possible efforts to ensure that the hard-won North-South dialogue will be successfully held to bear good fruit.

Today, the whole nation urgently wants North-South dialogue, including North-South Red Cross talks, North-South economic talks, and North-South parliamentary talks, to be successful at an early date through their efficient progress. It is precisely our consistent stand to recover the severed national ties caused by the artificial division of the country, to improve and develop North-South relations, and to pioneer the road of national reunification. We have advanced a series of realistic proposals to recover the national ties between the North and the South and have made all possible efforts for their realization.

In particular, in accordance with the policy for broad negotiations between the North and the South propounded by the great leader in his work on 6 August 1971, contacts between the North and the South, which had been in the state of a protracted blockade, was held for the first time. With this contact as an occasion, political talks between the North and the South were held and through them the 4 July North-South joint statement, the main contents of which are independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity, was announced. In August 1972, Red Cross talks were held between the North and the South for the first time.

When the North-South Red Cross talks were suspended because of the breach of faith by the South side after the seventh round of the talks, we repeatedly put forward reasonable proposals to make North-South dialogue a real and genuine dialogue for reunification by abiding by and implementing the three principles of national reunification. Last year, too, our party and the government of the republic proposed to the United States and South Korea to hold tripartite talks as an advancing step for the alleviation of tension and peace. Last autumn, too, our republic's compatriotic relief step for the South Korean flood victims was realized for the first time in the history of national division of nearly 40 ears. With this step as an occasion, an atmosphere of contact and dialogue was created and the closed door of barrier was opened again.

Proceeding from our desire to improve North-South relations at a time when a favorable atmosphere was created, we positively proposed to the South for holding North-South economic talks and for resuming Red Cross talks. As a result, economic talks were held between the North and the South and the Red Cross talks were also resumed. After that, when the United States and South Korea kicked off the Panmunjom shooting incident against us, one party of dialogue, announced the plan for a joint military exercise, and thus completely reversed the atmosphere of dialogue, we proposed to the South to hold vice premier-level contact between the North and the South with the aim of saving dialogue.

Even when the hard-won North-South economic talks and North-South Red Cross talks were suspended because of the South side's war exercise racket, we advanced last April a new peace proposal for the holding of North-South parliamentary talks to adopt a joint declaration of nonaggression, proceeding from our sincere desire to save the North-South talks. As a result, a preliminary contact was held to arrange North-South parliamentary talks in Panmunjom.

Along with this, last May, we also proposed to hold the second round of North-South economic and Red Cross talks. As a result, the second round of North-South economic talks was held on 17 May and the third round of the talks was held on 20 June. The fourth round of the North-South economic talks was held on 18 September. The eighth round of the North-South Red Cross talks was held in Seoul on 28 May for the first time in 12 years. At the talks, thanks to our repeated assertion and consistent explanation, the South side clarified its stand of agreeing, in principle, with our new proposal for the discussion in a package of the 5-point agenda items, which have already been agreed upon between the two sides and for the realization of free visits of separated family members and relatives. The ninth round of North-South Red Cross talks was held in Pyongyang some time ago.

Recent dialogues between the North and the South in various fields is a result of the consistent efforts of our party and the government of the republic to progress dialogues. We have made all possible efforts to bear good results in the hard-won dialogues in various fields between the North and the South.

However, despite our sincere efforts, anticommunist rackets and war exercises clouding the atmosphere of dialogue have continued in South Korea. Even at the dialogue site, the South side has continued insolent acts. In having dialogue, confrontation should not be inspired and tension should be alleviated. None of the dialogues held between the North and the South in the past have been successful. This is because of the South side's stand of seeking North-South confrontation. The South side should renounce its insolent and rude acts if it really wants dialogue. Our party and the government of the republic will continue to make all possible efforts to successfully hold North-South dialogue in various fields in the future, too.

Commentator Views Talks

SK220415 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1146 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Commentary by station commentator Cho Tong-ik: "Sincere Attitude Is Demanded"]

[Text] As has already been reported, the fourth round of the North-South economic talks was held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom on 18 September.

Proceeding from the stand of launching a North-South joint committee for economic cooperation at an early date, and of realizing a broad range of economic collaboration
and exchange between the North and South, our side presented, at the talks, a draft
agreement, putting together in order the proposals set forth by the two sides. Furthermore, our side proposed that a contact between working-level delegates be held within
15 days to continue the discussion of an agreement and to put together in order concrete
practical matters and documents.

This notwithstanding, the South Korean side made us uselessly waste time by coming out with the question of selling 300,000 tons of anthracite coal and reconnecting the Seoul-Sinuiju railway, which is not a basic question that should be discussed at the talks. Furthermore, it did not respond to our proposal for a working-level contact in connection with the matter of mapping out an agreement, and insisted on holding another round of talks.

Thus, the talks on that day failed to bring about any substantial results and ended with a decision on the date of the next round of talks. This is far from the expectations of the fellow countrymen toward the talks.

It was once again revealed at the fourth round of North-South economic talks who is taking the stand of genuinely realizing wide-ranging economic collaboration and exchange at an early date and who is not taking this stand.

Our side dealt with the talks from the stand of adopting an agreement, before anything else, by taking into consideration the fact that the two sides have the same view regarding the forming of a North-South joint committee for economic cooperation cochaired by officials of the vice premier level, and have a series of identical or similar views on the question of economic collaboration and exchange. This is because questions other than the issue of realizing economic cooperation and exchange can be settled when an agreement is adopted. For this reason, we presented a draft agreement consisting of 4 chapters and 32 articles and proposed a working-level contact to continue the discussion of an agreement. However, the attitude of the South side was different from ours. Even though it presented its draft agreement, the South side tried to divert the topic of discussion elsewhere by coming out with the question of selling anthracite coal and of reconnecting the Seoul-Sinuiju railway can be settled when a North-South joint committee for economic cooperation is established. It is obvious that it is difficult to settle such questions under the condition in which even a general principle on economic cooperation and exchange has not been agreed upon between the two sides.

we cannot understand at all why the South side, nevertheless, reversed the order, and called for discussing first questions that should be settled later. The South side came out with an issue that had nothing to do with, or that deviated from, the basic question, and did not accept our proposal to hold a working-level discussion to continue the work of mapping out an agreement, a basic question. We cannot view this as an attitude making it possible to really settle questions.

In view of the attitude of the South side, we cannot but think of whether or not the South side is trying to create confusion in discussing questions by coming out with extraneous issues and to avoid the settlement of the basic question while delaying and stalling for time. To put it more clearly, we cannot help but be suspicious concerning the purpose the South side seeks through economic talks. Economic cooperation between the North and South should, at all events, became a reunification-oriented economic cooperation to pull down the economic barriers between the North and South, develop the national-economy in a unified manner, and, through this, to restore national bonds and promote trust, thus laying a foundation for national reunification.

Proceeding from this stand, we set forth as the primary principle in the draft agreement the stipulation that the 3-point principle of national reunification -- independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity -- shall be respected in discussing and settling all questions regarding economic cooperation between the North and South and in guaranteeing their implementation and, on the basis of this, an active contribution shall be made to common national prosperity and the cause of national reunification.

If someone says that this is aimed at politicizing talks, this argument exposes his ulterior motive of neither welcoming the 3-point principle of national reunification — the common national program for reunification — nor desiring reunification. Indeed, we cannot but think that, hidden behind the South side's assertion, is an ulterior motive for only exchanging commodities by making the economic relations between the North and South economic relations between other countries. If this is not the case, why did the South side give priority to the question of trading materials rather than the question of forming a North-South joint committee for economic cooperation.

The talks this time did not achieve substantial progress, running counter to the expectation of the nation. This is totally attributable to the South Korean side's insincere attitude and stand toward talks.

Therefore, the South Korean side should, first of all, have a correct attitude and stand toward talks to realize economic collaboration and exchange between the North and South and to open the road to common national prosperity and national reunification by smoothly advancing the talks. Whether or not success is attained in the North-South economic talks in the future depends on the attitude of the South Korean side.

NODONG SINMUN ON NEED FOR 'GRAND NATIONAL UNITY'

SK210415 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2148 GMT 20 Sep 85

[NODONG SINMUN 21 September special article: "Let Us Achieve Grand National Unity of the Entire People Based on the National Ideology"]

[Text] To our people who have suffered from the national division for 40 years, since national liberation, reunifying the fatherland is the paramount hope and the most pressing task to attain through struggle.

Only when the national cause of the nation's liberation is attained can our people extricate themselves from the disaster and sufferings caused by the division and advance on a road leading to progress and prosperity.

The question of reunifying our country is a question of putting an end to the domination and interference by outside forces, to completely realize national sovereignty, to root out the distrust and confrontation between the North and South, and to achieve national unity. Reunification of the fatherland is work for the promotion of national interests. It is also a pan-national project that can be achieved only when the entire people set out in unity. This being the goal, the effort to achieve the cause of national reunification should start first with the question of how to promote unity between the North and South and grand national unity.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The fundamental guarantee for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland lies in grand national unity. Practically speaking, different ideologies and systems exist in the North and South of our country. Under such circumstances, it is impossible to think of independent and peaceful reunification of the country without the principle of grand national unity.

All those who value the interests of the country and people and hope for national unification should unite, transcending the differences in thoughts, ideologies, systems, and religions.

It is an objective reality that the communists in the North and the nationalists in the South and the people of all walks of life have different ideologies, systems and religions. However, such differences cannot be conditions that prevent the people from uniting in the struggle for national reunification. The struggle for national reunification is not a struggle between the communists and capitalists, but one between those who are patriotic and those who are unpatriotic, and between the independent nationalist forces and the imperialist aggressive forces. Therefore, the North and South should advocate a single common ideology, that is, a national ideology, instead of coming up with the communist ideology and capitalist ideology respectively, and achieve the grand national unity of the entire people based on the single common ideology.

Anyone who loves the country and people values national dignity and interests and desires to achieve national sovereignty and reunification. The valuing of national dignity and national interests and the aspiring for the realization of national reunification is becoming a single common ideology, a national ideology, of our people, who are longing for independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Today, anyone who is Korean, whether he is living in the North, South or abroad, and is genuinely worried about the perpetuation of the division of the country and people and hopes for national reunification, cherishes this common ideology, a national ideology. Although the communists in the North and the nationalists in the South have different thoughts and political ideologies and live in different places, they cannot have contradictions with regard to the question of national reunification. Even countries and peoples having different social systems are struggling in unity for common objectives. There can be no conditions that prevent consanguineous fellow countrymen from uniting and collaborating on the grounds that they have different thoughts and systems.

Whether one is faithful to communism or nationalism, or still to capitalism, cannot be an impediment to acheiving grand national unity. The people in the northern half of the republic and the people of all walks of life in South Korea, including the workers, peasants, youths, students, religious personages, and politicians, should join in the sacred struggle for independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland by uniting as one under the banner of national reunification, just as a broad spectrum of the popular masses of all walks of life, including the communists, fought against the Japanese imperialists in the dark days of the Japanese imperialist rule by forming the United Anti-Japanese National Front under the banner of national liberation.

In order to achieve the grand national unity on the basis of national ideology, it is imperative that the North and South dissolve misunderstanding and distrust, attain mutual respect and trust, put differences behind them, and make concerted efforts to find out what they have in common. Under the circumstances in which the North and South of our country have different thoughts and systems, each should not force its own thoughts and system on the other. We have no intention to force our own thoughts and system on South Korea.

The persons in authority in South Korea, too, should refrain from claiming that they would reunify the country by prevailing over communism or from forcefully demanding that we abandon communism. If the persons in authority in South Korea genuinely hope for national harmony and reunification, they should abandon the rackets of anticommunist confrontation against the northern half of the republic and should not suppress the political parties, organizations, and the patriotic people calling for democracy and national reunification.

Under today's circumstances in which fascist terrorist rule is practiced in South Korea and the people's democratic rights and freedom are completely suppressed and obliterated, it is impossible to think of grand national unity. Even though the persons in authority in South Korea are paying lip-service to dialogue and peaceful reunification, they are in fact pursuing anticommunist confontation and division. Saying that we are coming up with disguised peace offensive without abandoning the lines of reunifying the South by communizing it, they are whipping up people's animosity toward us and war consciousness under the pretext of the nonexistent threat of southward invasion. This is nothing but an act aimed at impeding the grand national unity and at perpetuating the division. If the persons in authority in South Korea genuinely hope to have sincere dialogue with us and peaceful reunification, they should replace their policy of dividing the nation with a policy of reunification and the anticommunist policy with a pro-communist [yonggong chongchaek] policy.

Only when a national ideology is given priority and grand national unity is realized on the basis of this national ideology will our people be able to resolve the question of the national reunification on our own after crushing the maneuvers of the splittists within and without to fabricate two Koreas. The founding of the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK] is the most realistic and reasonable way to achieve national unity and national reunification. All the people in the North and South should more vigorously join in the pan-national struggle to achieve the historic cause of national reunification by founding the DCRK, after having the U.S. imperialist aggressors withdrawn from South Korea, by uniting firmly on the basis of grand national unity.

KIM IL-SONG SENDS MESSAGE TO MEXICAN PRESIDENT

SK230554 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0538 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Pyongyang September 23 (KCNA) -- President Kim Il-song expressed deep sympathy and condolences on September 22 to Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, president of the United States of Mexico, and through him, to the inhabitants in the afflicted areas in connection with the seismic damage in some areas of Mexico. He expressed the belief that the Mexican people under the leadership of President [De la Madrid] Hurtado would recover at an early date from the earthquake damage and stabilize the lives of people in the afflicted areas.

O CHIN-U MESSAGE TO BULGARIAN DEFENSE MINISTER

SK240512 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Pyongyang September 24 (KCNA) — Vice-marshal of the Kore in People's Army O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defence, on the 41st anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian People's Army. Noting that the Bulgarian People's Army founded as successor to the glorious tradition of anti-fascist armed struggle has performed shining feats in the struggle for reliably defending the victory of socialist revolution and sweeping the fascist occupationists off the soil of the motherland, the message said: The officers and men of the Korean People's Army express firm solidarity with the Bulgarian People's Army in their just struggle for dependably guaranteeing the building of a developed socialist society in Bulgaria and creating a nuclear-free zone on the Balkan peninsula. The message expressed the belief that the friendship and cooperation between the peoples and armies of the two countries would further consolidate and develop in the spirit of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Korea and Bulgaria.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GROUP'S VISIT TO PYONGYANG

Coverage of Reunions Restricted

SK220404 Seoul YONHAP in English 0350 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, Sept. 22 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The North Korean media have described the ongoing inter-Korean exchange of hometown visiting groups as "a historic event in the four decades of national division," but actual coverage, including television broadcasts, has been greatly restricted.

The NODONG SINMUN, PYONGYANG SINMUN, MINJUCHOSUN and other dailies published here ran only brief articles about the family reunion on page 3 of the mandatory four pages. Television news reports did not show the highly emotional reunion scene. Instead, announcer simply reported the event. Newspapers here carried a large photo of Kim Sang-kyop, chief of the South Korean delegation, on a tour of North Korean facilities. Photos of the reunion did not show the persons involved because a group of reporters blocked the view of them.

Under an agreement made by the South and North Korean Red Cross Societies, a 151-member South Korean contingent that includes 50 hometown visitors, 50 folk art performers, 30 newsmen and 20 support personnel came here Friday on a four-day visit. They are scheduled to return to Seoul, via Panmunjom, on Monday.

'Watchful Eye' Hinders Talks

SK220357 Seoul YONHAP in English 0335 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, Sept. 22 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The watchful eye of the North Korean Government seemed to have prevented North Koreans from engaging in candid and unreserved talks with their relatives from the South when the first reunions of dispersed families in 40 years took place in Pyongyang on Saturday morning.

In a meeting between Yi Pyong-chol, 47, of South Korea and his cousin, who lives in the North, the North Korean repeatedly said, "our reunion owes much to the great leader."

North Korean watchers disguised themselves as waiters, and guides from the North Korean Red Cross Society and newspaperman surrounded the dinner table, monitoring every word said between the dispersed family members. The North Korean family members, aware they were being monitored, became taciturn and stole glances at the watchers from time to time. Every time the waiters came again to their table, the North Koreans abruptly changed the topic of conversation with their relatives from the South. As if they had been instructed in advance, they even made unexpected remarks, such as; "please, make efforts to reunify the country as the great leader has instructed."

Some hometown visitors from the South sent the waiters on useless errands, so they could hold private conversations without interruption.

In addition, some North Korean Red Cross guides glared and frowned at the North Korean family members in an effort to discourage them from doing anything inappropriate.

Religious Services Held

SK220802 Seoul YONHAP in English 0743 GMT 22 Sep 85

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[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, Sept. 22 (OANA-YONHAP) -- For the first time in 40 years, South Koreans could be heard singing hymns and praying in North Korea on Sunday morning.

About 50 Christians from the 151-member South Korean visiting group took part in Protestant and Catholic services held on the third floor of the Koryo Hotel, where they are staying. Among those attending were Kim Sang-hyop, president of the (South) Korean National Red Cross (KNRC) and head of the visiting contingent; Chi Hak-sun, a prominent South Korean bishop; and Hong Song-chol, former South Korean minister of home affairs. In his sermon, Bishop Chi said, "first of all, it is most meaningful to have a historic mass in Pyongyang, where many clergymen have been apprehended and prosecuted since the Korean peninsula was liberated from Japanese colonial rule in 1945."

"Such martyrdoms, I firmly believe, will bring forth peace on this peninsula before long," the bishop said. Chi said he was told the sad news that seven of his close relatives have died when he met his younger sister Friday for the first time in 37 years. "We should hold an attitude of sacrificing ourselves for the nation and its peo, , and ultimately for the reunification of Korea, and should understand the stark realities (concerning the division of Korea)," the bishop said.

KNRC President Kim said that the religious services in the North Korean capital have a great deal of significance.

Reunion on 22 Sep Delayed

SK221012 Seoul YONHAP in English 0931 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, Sept. 22 (YONHAP) -- Fifteen South Koreans met their relatives at Koryo Hotel here after four decades of separation resulting from the division of the Korean peninsula and 1950-53 Korean war. The reunion, the second following Saturday's meeting, came belatedly only during the third day of their stay due to insincerity on the part of the North Korean side.

Under prearranged schedule, the reunion had taken place in public view for five minutes. Afterwards, they were each led into separate hotel rooms for private encounter. As they did on Saturday, North Korean relatives repeated "great leader (Kim Ilsong)," emphasizing that "there was no trouble in earning a living." At the third floor lobby where the reunion took place, about 300 North Korean guides and reporters were milling, creating confusion. The scene of the lobby was not so confused as it was a day earlier, but North Korean guides continued to obstruct coverages by South Korean reporters, interrupting questions addressed to reuniting families. There are fifteen more South Koreans who await possible reunion. The North Korean side unilaterally scaled down the size of reunion.

The South Koreans are here as part of 151-member contingent that includes 50 hometown visiting group, 50 folk art performers, 30 newsmen and 20 support personnel. They are scheduled to return to Seoul on Monday.

Group Tours Hospital

SK221247 Seoul YONHAP in English 1201 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 22 (YONHAP) -- The South Korean hometown visiting group, who are on a four-day visit in this North Korean capital beginning on Friday, visited a hospital here Sunday afternoon.

The South Korean delegation, led by Kim Sang-hyop, president of the (South) Korean National Red Cross (KNRC), observed dical facilities and patients' wards at the Pyongyang Sanwon (hospital) in the Tandong River region from 2:30 p.m. (0530 GMT).

Yi Chong-yul, vice chairman of the North Korean Red Cross Society, guided the South Korean delegation.

Most of equipment and devices at the hospital, which was dedicated in August 1980, are imported items -- from Japan, the Soviet Union and East Germany. On the wall of each ward hangs a portrait of Kim Il-song, and a signboard saying Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il had visited the hospital was put on the entrance of the diagnosing room.

On Sunday morning, the southern delegation observed performances of music and dance by North Korean artists for one hour and 10 minutes at a Pyongyang theater.

KNRC President Kim, guided by Yi, also inspected the subway in Pyongyang.

Comments in Panmunjom

SK231205 Seoul YONHAP in English 0907 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Pammunjom, Sept. 23 (YONHAP) -- After winding up a three-day stay in Pyongyang, the 151-member South Korean contingent arrived at this truce village early Monday afternoon, en route to its destination, Seoul. The returning South Koreans, led by Kim Sang-hyop, president of the (South) Korea National Red Cross (KNRC), underwent transit procedures in the North Korean guards' resting room after passing through an office of the Armistice Commission.

When asked to comment on his visit to Pyongyang, Bishop Chi Hak-sun said in a somber tone that he was deeply impressed, but that the trip was a series of heart-breaking events from the departure to the return. He said most of the people he wanted to see were no longer alive, but he met with his sister.

Kim Hi-kap, a comedian who participated in the two folk art performances, said he felt as if his troupe had performed in an alien land and that North Korean art has changed drastically. Another comedian, Paek Nam-pong, said it was a sad sight for him to see spectators in Pyongyang trying to suppress their laughter as he and his colleague performed comedy. He added, however, that the performance was a success.

Since there is no pop music in North Korea, Na Hun-a, a popular singer said, he got the impression he was being shunned by the audience. "I keenly felt that I was not popular with the North Korean people," he said.

Upon returning from North Korea, KNRC President Kim said that although the number of people who actually met with their long-separated family members was small, its symbolic meaning was great, as it was the first step toward reuniting the estimated 10 million dispersed family members. "We would have to cherish the result of the project and develop it further," Kim said. It was also significant that the South Korean folk art performers had given their North Korean brethren an opportunity to taste the genuine nature of traditional Korean culture, he said. "Our visit to Pyongyang," Kim continued, "is believed to serve as a solid and worthy stepping stone to the reunion of displaced family members and to the reunification of the Korean people."

Spokesman Regrets North's Charges

SK231202 Seoul YONHAP in English 0913 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Panmunjon, Korea, Sept. 23 (YONHAP) -- The spokesman for the (South) Korea National Red Cross (KNRC) said Monday that it was regrettable that the North Korean side made unreasonable charges against the KNRC and that the KNRC showed utmost sincerity while the North Korean delegation was in Seoul.

In a press conference here, Song pointed out that the two Red Cross Societies had exchanged a note ensuring the security of the visitors. He refuted allegations made by North Korean Red Cross spokesman Pak Yong-su that the South Korean side tried to induce North Koreans into defecting to the South, and he criticized North Korea's political system. North Korea's assertions were just "charges for charges' own sake," Song said.

He also said that the charges that the KNRC was insincere in its efforts to locate the relatives of North Korean visitors were untrue. "I should reveal here that some South Koreans related to some North Korean visitors waited outside the hotel where the North Korean delegation was staying all night to see their North Korean relatives, but they were unable to be reunited with the North Koreans, due to the insincerity of the North Korean side," he said. Song said that Pak's charges that the South Korean side was uncooperative with reporters from Pyongyang and that they searched the North Koreans' personal effects were also untrue -- unworthy of comment.

Returning Group Leader Comments

SK231256 Seoul YONGHAP in English 1206 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 23 (YONHAP) -- Kim Sang-hyop, president of the (South) Korea National Red Cross (KNRC), said Monday South Koreans who visited Pyongyang over the weekend have been convinced "the national history of Korea, which has generated endless vitality even in adversity, has just entered the glorious entrance to the national unification."

Shortly after returning here from Pyongyang leading the 151-member group including 50 hometown visitors, Kim said in a news conference at the press center, "through this visit, we have confirmed that the fraternity in the breast of 60 million Koreans could never cool down despite the national separation of 40 years." The former prime minister also said, "our art performers who visited Pyongyang on an important mission to restore national identity gave their performances successfuly."

"Although the achievements our group members scored this time may not be great, we should not be disappointed, sustaining our efforts to continue undertaking the exchange program of 10 million displaced family members," Kim said. He said the exchange of more hometown visitors should be negotiated through working-level officials of the South and North Korean Red Cross Societies, or at the 10th plenary inter-Korean Red Cross talks scheduled for Nov. 26 in Seoul.

The KNRC hopes to discuss the agenda for the establishment of a meeting room for dispersed family members in both sides in the truce village of Panmunjom in the upcoming plenary talks, Kim said. KNRC earlier suggested the discussion.

Returning Visitors Comment

SK230056 Seoul YONHAP in English 1327 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 23 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The following are the results of interviews with some of the 35 South Korean hometown visitors who returned Monday from Pyongyang.

Hong Song-Chul, 60, former minister of home affairs, and he felt in his bones how precious liberty is after seeing the controlled society, when asked about his visit to Pyongyang. Disclosing that his elder sister living in the North looked older than expected, Hong said that he and his sister promised to look up at the full moon between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. every month, considering the circumstances that they could not pledge to meet again.

Bishop Chi Hak-sun said, "I was overwhelmed by emotion. It is regrettable, however, that I could meet only a few relatives as many others had already perished." "My visit to Pyongyang was a succession of touching moments," Bishop Chi who met with a sister and some other relatives in the North said, adding he feels sad as he left his relatives in the "inhumane society."

U Tae-kyu, 65, businessman, said he was completely disappointed during his tour of Pyongyang, explaining that he and his nephew could not exchange talks open-mindedly due to close surveilance by North Korean guards when they met for the first time in 40 years.

Cho Chang-sok, 58, who runs his own company here, said his elder brother living in Pyongyang did not believe his word that his firm exports an average of U.S. \$12 million worth of goods a year. He also said that they barely asked after their relatives because of a short span of time given for them.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON NORTH GROUP IN SEOUL

North 'Broke Agreement'

SK210749 Seoul YONHAP in English 0730 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sep 21 (OANA-YONHAP) — A (South) Korean National Red Cross (KNRC) official said Saturday that the North Korean side broke an agreement made earlier to reunite 30 North Koreans with their family members and relatives in South Korea Saturday. Only 15 North Koreans participated in the dramatic reunion, which took place in the Sheraton Hotel here. It was the first time that North Koreans have come here for family reunions since Korea was artifically separated four decades ago. The 15 are among the 50 North Koreans who arrived here Friday to visit family members and relatives in the South. They will be here until Monday.

The KNRC official said that the North Korean side presented the KNRC on Sep 10 with a list of names of 50 North Koreans to come to Seoul, and another list of 189 persons who the North Koreans wanted to meet in Seoul. The KNRC, meanwhile, has confirmed the whereabouts of 50 South Koreans in South related to the 30 North Koreans, and gave the list of the 50 people to the North Korean Red Cross on Friday, the official said.

Officials of the two Red Cross societies agreed late Friday to reunite the 30 North Koreans with the 50 South Koreans at 9:30 a.m. Saturday (00:30 GMT) on the first floor of the Sheraton Hotel in eastern Seoul overlooking the Han River. Just 10 minutes before the scheduled reunion, however, North Korean officials informed the KNRC that only 15 North Koreans should meet their family members, saying that they had "some problems." the KNRC official said.

KNRC officials urged North Korean officials, including Son Song-pil, chairman of the North Korean Red Cross Society (NKRC), and NKRC spokesman Pak Yong-su, that the other 15 North Koreans should be reunited with their family members on Saturday, but the North Koreans demanded that the reunions for the remaining 15 people be made on Sunday.

The two sides are now discussing the matter of reuniting the remaining 15 North Koreans. South Korean Red Cross officials are trying to schedule the second reunion for later in the day on Saturday, the official added.

The first reunion on Saturday began at 10 a.m., 30 minutes behind schedule, when Yi Yong-tok, vice president of the KNRC, and NKRC Chairman Son entered the reunion room and sat down at a long table. The 15 North Koreans, led by South Korean Red Cross officials, then entered the room, one-by-one.

The reunion lasted for about two hours. The next reunion is scheduled for Sunday morning in the same room of the Sheraton Hotel here.

Meanwhile, in Pyongyang, where a 151-member South Korean contingent is staying, about 10 South Koreans were reunited with their family members and relatives at 11:30 Saturday (0230 GMT), the KNRC official said.

North Officials Prevent Reunion

SK221018 Seoul YONHAP in English 0601 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sep 22 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Two South Korean women waited all day outside the Sheraton Hotel here to meet their elder brother, who came here from Pyongyang, but North Korean officials would not allow them to meet. Mrs. O Se-bun, 50, and Mrs. O Se-ok, 48, spent all day Saturday pacing impatiently in front of the hotel, where their North Korean brother, O Se-chun, 62, is staying. Mr. O leader of the 50 North Korean hometown visitors, is now in Seoul for a four-day visit.

The two sisters went to the hotel after seeing the face of a North Korean who resembled their brother on television. They were unable to experience what would have been the most meaningful moment of their lives, however, because of the insincerity of the North Korean officials.

When the Korean war broke out in 1950, Mr. O, who was in Seoul at the time, was separated from his wife, the sisters said. O's wife later gave birth to one daughter, who was registered as the daughter of his elder brother. "I am dying to meet with my real father," said O's 35-year-old daughter, who has one son and a daughter of her own. "In the past, I believed my uncle was my father. Nobody told me the truth."

Art Troupe's Final Performance

SK221249 Seoul YONHAP in English 1205 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 22 (YONHAP) -- The North Korean art troupe presented their second and last performance at the National Theater in downtown Seoul at 3 p.m. Sunday.

During the one and a half-hour performance, 50 artists from Pyongyang gave the same repretoire as the first performance, including a package program of dances, traditional Korean songs and instrument playings.

The programs of group dance, comprising 10-12 dancers, represented half of the performance, which was posided over by a mistress of ceremony using a hackneyed expression. Experts here said it had the technical finesse of the performance but lacked orthodox artistic quality.

The North Korean dance seemed to have been much influenced by those in China and Soviet Union, Kang Son-yong, South Korea's senior dancer, said.

Luncheon 22 Sep

SK220950 Seoul YONHAP in English 0904 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 22 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Fifty hometown visitors from North Korea and many of their South Korean relatives attended a luncheon party here Sunday, following the second round of family reunions. The luncheon was hosted by Cho Yong-sik, chairman of the Committee for the Reunion of Separated Families, at the Hotel Shilla here.

In an address at the luncheon, Cho said that the Korean people should not repeat the fratricide that took place during the Korean war (1950-53), because the two halves of Korea comprise one nation and they have the same cultural traditions and ancestors. Cho urged Son Song-pil, chairman of the North Korean Red Cross Central Committee, to continue to work toward the reunification of dispersed family members and relatives living in South and North Korea, through the humanitarian spirit of the Red Cross. The South Korean chairman also appealed to Son to cooperate in locating separated family members in the North through the free exchanges of letters and packages between Seoul and Pyongyang.

Cho, 64, is one of the estimated 10 million Koreans separated from relatives.

Since it was established in 1982, Cho's committee has set up branches in 21 cities in 14 countries for the purpose of appealing to the international community for help in carrying out the family reunion project.

In another speech, O Se-chun, who heads the 50-member North Korean hometown visiting group, expressed the hope that the ongoing inter-Korean Red Cross talks will succeed.

Also attending the luncheon party were Yi Yong-tok, vice president of the (South) Korean Red Cross (KNRC), and Song Yong-tae, KNRC spokesman.

The 151-member North Korean contingent, which came to Seoul on Friday, will return to Pyongyang via the truce village of Panmunjom on Monday morning.

Banquet 22 Sep

SK221325 Seoul YONHAP in English 1304 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 22 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Yi Yong-tok, vice president of (South) Korea National Red Cross (KNRC), said Sunday that the ongoing inter-Korean Red Cross talks should now lead to a stage for the implementation of the five-point agenda for the family reunion projects, agreed upon by both sides.

Speaking at a diner party in honor of the 151-member North Korean group including separated family members and folk art troupe, Yi called on the North Korean side to mobilize every possible way to locate separated family members and relatives between the two divided halves. "If and when the reunited families want to live together either in the South or in the North of their own choice, who can block their such basic rights?" Yi said. He also urged South and North Korean Red Cross officials to meet the solemn, historic call for the national reconciliation.

With some 340 people from South and North Korea attending, the party was held at the Mugungwa (the Rose of Sharon) Ballroom of the Sheraton Hotel, where the North Korean contingent is staying. The North Korean group comprises 50 hometown visitors, 50 folk art performers, 30 newsmen and 20 support and technical personnel.

Leading the North Koreans, Son Song-pil, chairman of the North Korean Red Cross Central Committee, said in a return address:

"I have come to Seoul to confirm that we (South and North Korea) are one nation with same blood and same customs through my four-day visit." "A Korean who really loves the people and the nation should transcend ideologies and political systems," he added.

The North Korean delegation will return to Pyongyang via the truce village of Panmunjom on Monday morning.

South and North Korea are simultaneously exchanging visits by groups of separated families and art troupes for the first time in 40 years since the Korean peninsula was divided at the end of World War Two.

Group Leader Meets Classmates

SK230601 Seoul YONHAP in English 0533 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 23 (OANA-YONHAP) -- An emotional reunion of former high school classmates highlighted a dinner party that the (South) Korea National Red Cross (KNRC) hosted for the visiting North Koreans Sunday evening in the Sheraton Hotel here.

The center of attention at the alumni meeting was Son Song-pil, chairman of the North Korean Red Cross Central Committee. He visited Seoul Sept. 20-23, leading a 151-member North Korean delegation in the first exchange of non-official visitors between South and North Korea since Korea was divided four decades ago. Several of Son's former high school classmates, who now live in Seoul, also attended the happy gathering.

As he crossed the border into South Korea from North Korea via the truce village of Panmunjom on Friday, Son told a South Korean Red Cross official that he graduated from Yangjong High School in Seoul, but could not remember what year he graduated.

Upon hearing the news of his visit to Seoul, several of Son's former classmates agreed to invite him to their old school. Their plan was not possible, however, because of Son's schedule in Seoul, so they decided to meet with him at a planned dinner party at the hotel for separated family members.

Giving the matter special consideration, KNRC officials arranged for the classmates to sit together at a separate table, where they could hold private discussions with Son. Son and Yi Yong-tok, vice president of the KNRC, were sitting at the main table. As soon as Son recognized his former classmates, he cast away formalities and approached the table with great strides.

"Song-pil."

"Oh, you are Kinyong. Oh, Yu Sun-kap is also here."

They recognized one another immediately and began hugging one another. Following those moments of deep emotion, they engaged in pleasant chats.

Sitting at the table was the current school master of Yangjong High School. Son offered his cup to the school master and said: "Teacher, please take my cup. I will fill it." When he found out that the master is the son of the master who served at Yangjong High School several decades ago, Son said "you are much like your father."

Also present at the happy gathering was the owner of Son's boarding house. The owner showed him several old pictures, which seemed to please Son very much. Son told the man that he had no pictures of the "good old times" and asked him to copy the picture for him.

At the conclusion of the gathering, Son received many gifts, including a necktie and shirt commemo ating the 80th anniversary of the founding of Yangjong High School, and a training suit with the laurel of Son Ki-chong, winner of the marathon in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Son Ki-chong also graduated from Yangjong High School. The North Korean Red Cross official also received a list of former classmates.

Departures for Home

SK230751 Seoul YONHAP in English 0735 CMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept 23 (YONHAP) -- Hometown visitors and folk art performers from South and North Korea left for Seoul and Pyongyang, respectively, Monday morning, ending the first inter-Korean exchange of citizens in 40 years.

The 151-member South Korean contingent, led by Kim Sang-hyop, president of the (South) Korean National Red Cross, left the Koryo Hotel in Pyongyang, ending its four-day stay in the North Korean capital. The South and North Korean visiting groups crossed the border village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone around noon.

While in Pyongyang, 35 of the 50 South Korean dispersed family members met with their parents, brothers, sisters and other relatives living in the northern half of the peninsula for the first time in four decades. Meanwhile, 30 of the 50 North Korean hometown visitors had tearful reunions with relatives in the South.

Each folk art troupe staged two performances during their four-day visits to Seoul and Pyongyang.

The 151 North Koreans were led by Son Song-pil, chairman of the North Korean Red Cross Society.

This was the first time that Seoul and Pyongyang exchanged visits of dispersed family members since the two sides began the inter-Korean Red Cross talks in 1971.

NORTH USES VISITS FOR 'POLITICAL PROPAGANDA'

SK231208 Seoul YONHAP in English 0925 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Panmunjom, South Korea, Sept 23 (YONHAP) -- North Korea using historic exchange visits that took place last weekend as fuel for political propaganda by pressuring North Koreans to denounce South Korea.

The North Korean side is apparently forcing the 43 North Koreans, who met South Korean relatives in Pyongyang for the first time in 40 years last weekend to criticize the South Korean government and the stationing of U.S. troops in the South. They made the criticisms in the Koryo Hotel in Pyongyang, just before the South Korean hometown visitors and art performers left for Seoul.

The North Koreans also mobilized 20 reporters and television cameramen to cover the politically-oriented rally in a lobby of the hotel.

One of the North Koreans, Sim Chang-sin, 64, said that South and North Korea have no reason not to make peace, now that separated family members from both sides have met again. But she also said that the presence of U.S. military forces in the southern half of the peninsula precluded reconciliation between the two Koreas.

The woman who introduced herself as the representative of the North Korean displaced families asked, "is anyone here against the pleasant life of all 50 million Korean people?" She then shouted, "U.S. troops have prevented us from enjoying such a life." The woman repeated her performance three times before North Korean reporters and guides, as well as South Korean visitors. Because each performance contained the same contents, she created the impression that her words were well planned political propaganda. As the woman repeated the words, other North Korean separated family members, apparently missing their relatives, carried forlorn looks on their faces.

Meanwhile, the South Korean visitors returned home Monday via the truce village of Panmunjom, winding up their three-day stay in Pyongyang.

NORTH-SOUTH FAMILY, ART TROUPE VISITS ANALYZED

SK230747 Seoul YONHAP in English 0728 GMT 23 Sep 85

[News Analysis by Kim Tae-sik]

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 23 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The exchange of hometown visiting groups and folk art troupes between Seoul and Pyongyang last weekend surely was a great event in the post-war history of Korea, even though the number of families involved and the visiting sites were limited. Relatives who had been separated for decades on either side of the demilitarized zone dividing the peninsula were briefly reunited at hotels in the capitals of both Koreas on Saturday and Sunday. The family reunions proved the eternal truth that "blood is thicker than water." The unprecedented exchange of visits, arranged by the Red Cross organizations of both Koreas, was meaningful in that it gave all of the estimated 10 million separated family members in Korea hope for future reunions.

The simultaneous exchange of visits was the result of 14 years of intermittent inter-Korean Red Cross talks, hampered by numerous difficulties and deadlocks, caused by insincerity on the part of the North Koreans. The exchange visits were made possible by the persistent humanitarian efforts made by the (South) Korean National Red Cross (KNRC) to carry out the national task of reuniting separated families.

Considering the fact that people-to-people contacts help to develop social phenomena on many different levels, the expansion of the hometown visitors' program would pave the way for exchanges in other fields, thereby contributing to the establishment of mutual trust between the two Koreas, observers here said.

The restoration of the homogeneity of the Korean people, one of a few peoples with unmixed blood, would also become possible through continued exchanges, they said.

The humanitarian significance of the reunions last weekend was reduced by the uncooperative and insincere attitude exhibited by North Korea during the simultaneous four-day visits. When the Red Cross officials from the two Koreas were planning the visits earlier this year, South Korea proposed that the hometown visitors be allowed to visit their hometowns. The North Koreans insisted, however, that the visits be limited to Seoul and Pyongyang.

The North Koreans exposed their inhumane nature even after the planning stage was over and the long anticipated reunions finally took place.

On Saturday, the first day of the reunions, the North Korean officials allowed only 15 hometown visitors from North Korea to meet with their relatives in the South, breaking an earlier agreement to reunite 30 North Koreans with 50 South Koreans related to them on Saturday. Just 10 minutes before the scheduled reunion Saturday morning, North Korean officials informed KNRC officials that only 15 North Koreans could meet with relatives and they insisted that the reunions take place in separate rooms. The two sides had agreed on Friday to hold reunions first in an open place then in separate rooms. The decision of the North Korean officials to permit only 15 North Koreans to meet with their South Korean kin on Saturday may have been a political move, observers here said.

In Pyongyang, the reunions of South Korean hometown visitors with their North Korean relatives took place in a confusing and tense atmosphere, under the tight surveillance of North Korean officials. The family members found it difficult even to express their happiness in a free manner because the North Korean officials strictly controlled the reunion, which took place in separate rooms of the Koryo Hotel. The North Korean relatives often repeated the words "great leader, Kil Il-song" and tried to create the impression that everyone in North Korea enjoys affluence and is free from worry.

The North Korean side seemed to place more importance on the performances of the folk art troupes than on the hometown visits. The performance by the North Korean folk artists only revealed that the artistic standards of North Korea are far behind those of South Korea, however.

The exchange of hometown visitors was meaningful, but the Korean people, especially those 10 million separated from relatives, hope it will pave the way for "real hometown visits" and that it will lay the foundation for national reconciliation, the observers said.

CHON ON ELIMINATING MISTRUST IN N-S RELATIONS

SK240105 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 24 (OANA-YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan said Monday by promoting Red Cross talks and other contacts between Seoul and Pyongyang, South Korea hopes to prevent another war on the peninsula. "Our goal in the inter-Korean dialogue is to build a foundation for national unification by gradually expanding exchanges in as many fields as possible and by eliminating mutual mistrust," Chon said. The president made the remarks at a reception for 100 people who contributed to the development of the civil defense corps on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the corps' activitaion. The situation on the Korean peninsula has not improved since the corps was founded in 1975, Chon said. If South Korea continues to maintain its self-defense posture, whichhas gotten stronger, to prevent the recurrence of war, and to build up national strength, it will surely reach it goal of entering the ranks of he advanced countries, Chon said.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON TALKS WITH U.S. OFFICIAL

SK200601 Seoul YONHAP in English 0427 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 20 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Yi Won-kyong, South Korea's foreign affairs minister, Thursday briefed the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee on the results of the recent talks between Paul Wolfowitz, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, and Soviet officials in Moscow.

In a closed meeting, Yi said that Wolfowitz explained in detail the results of his discussions with Soviet officials concerning the Korean peninsula.

During an overnight stopover here on Sunday, the U.S. official briefed the Korean Government on the results of his visit in Moscow, which took place Sept. 12-13. Yi also said that Wolfowitz promised that the United States would continue to strongly support Korea's position in international forums, including the United Nations.

The Korean foreign minister reportedly explained the government's position on ways to promote relations with non-hostile communist nations, and how to prepare for the recently-opened General Assembly of the United Nations and the ongoing talks between South and North Korea.

ALL 21 ATTORNEYS IN USIS CASE RESIGN IN PROTEST

SK240116 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Sep 85 p 8

[Text] All the 21 defense attorneys for the student defendants indicted for the May seizure of the USIS library resigned yesterday, in protest against the justice minister's suspension of the law practice of collegue Pak Chan-chong.

In a hearing on the USIS case held at the Seoul District Criminal Court at 10 a.m., they also argued that the three-member court panel, headed by Senior Judge Yi Chae-hon, lacked fairness in conducting the trial by dismissing most of their requests for "critical" witnesses. The USIS trial was resumed 21 days after it was thrown into the doldrums by the defense council's bid to boycott the panel.

Before their declaration of resignation, the defense attorneys called on the panel to delay the trial until a court's decision on their request for a court injunction to invalidate the justice minister's order against Pak. They maintained that they were about to file the request.

Senior Judge Yi, however, turned down their request, saying that Pak's absence at the bar did not affect the trial.

Lawyer and lawmaker Pak Chan-chong was ordered by the justice minister to suspend his law practice one day after he was indicated without physical detention for having joined an illegal rally and having delivered a verbal "message" from a jailed student leader to protesting students.

The Attorney Law provides that the justice minister can suspend the law practice of a "criminally indicated" lawyer until the court's final decision on his or her case.

Rep Pak, along with lawyer Cho Sung-hyong and lawyer and lawmaker Chang Ki-uk and 18 other lawyers, had been a volunteer defense attorney for the accused students in the USIS case. Besides the USIS case, he is now serving as defense attorney for over 120 students in more than 50 cases involving anti-government activities.

Senior Judge Yi said that the court panel would choose state-appointed attorneys for the student defendants.

The hearing session, like its predecessors, was closed to ordinary spectators in a bid to prevent courtroom disturbances. The next hearing is set for Wednesday.

SPK ON THAI INCURSIONS FOR WEEK ENDING 19 SEP

BK231134 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1104 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 23 -- Thailand's L-19 reconnaissance aircraft on 11 occasions overflew Poipet, two kilometres inside Kampuchean airspace, in the week ended on September 19. Meanwhile Thai vessels made 190 incursions into the areas from four to 22 miles off the islands of Kaoh Kong and Kaoh Tang. On the ground Thai forces made 36 shellings on western Kop, northwestern Pailin, southern 0 Dar and southwestern Ta Sanh in Battambang Privince and Road 56 in Pursat Province. The same week, groups of Khmer meactionaries infiltrated from Thailand into Kampuchea for sabotage. But they were punished by Kampuchean border guards and the local population: 150 intruders were put out of action, including 83 held captive, and 69 guns and a quantity of other war materials seized.

JOURNAL DISCUSSES UPCOMING FIFTH PARTY CONGRESS

PK201153 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 19 Sep 85

[NEAK KHOUSNA article: "Toward the Party's Fifth National Representative Congress" -- date not given]

[Text] In the light of the party's fourth national representative congress resolutions, the Cambodian revolution has recorded great and glorious victories over the past 5 years. Despite their many perfidious maneuvers and frantic efforts, the enemies are clearly weakening and are doomed to failure. Meanwhile, the Cambodian revolution has grown bigger and stronger. We will certainly win final victory.

The party's 11th plenum decided to convene the 5th party congress. The party's national representative congress is the party's supreme leading organ and the party is the sole leader of the Cambodian revolution. The coming national representative congress will inspect and evaluate the development of the Cambodian revolution since the fourth party congress, extract all the main lessons in order to continue accelerating the progress of the revolution,, and initiate all the strategic tasks of the Cambodian revolution in the coming stages and all the actual tasks and objectives for the next 5-year period. The congress will make decisions on important matters and measures concerning the building of the party so that it will be in accordance with the new requirements of the revolution. The congress will discuss and adopt a political report and addenda to the party's statute presented by the party Central Committee and will elect a new party Central Committee. The congress is an important political event in the everyday life of our nation and people. It is a symbol of the heart and brain of our entire party, the aspirations and sentiments of our entire people.

The congress will make decisions on important problems of the country and concrete, positive problems in the day-to-day life of our people as a whole. To each of our cadres and party members, to each of our combatants and citizens, the congress bears a mantle of solemnity while exuding warmth and intimacy. Our party, people, and Armed Forces as a whole should heighten their will, intellect, aspirations, and sentiments and transform them into realistic and concrete revolutionary activities that actively contribute to the success of the congress.

1. All party organizations should inform all party members of the decision make by the lith plenum of the party Central Committee concerning the convening of the 5th party congress and the contents and objectives of this congress. Core groups and mass organizations, first of all the youth unions and trade unions, should organize lifest le activities that seek to understand the party. On this basis, they should heighten confidence in and affection for the party, raising the revolutionary determination of the members of core groups, youth unions, and other associations.

- 2. Ministries and offices at all levels, mass organizations, armed units, factories, enterprises, schools, and localities should launch a broad emulation movement, pledging to record the biggest successes in fighting the enemies, proselytizing the misled persons, increasing the rainy season production and sale of paddy to the state, and building strong intrinsic revolutionary forces in the localities, thus establishing wonderful achievements in anticipation of the party congress. All ministries, offices, and mass organizations should closely link these four objectives with their own actual tasks and objectices, creating an enthusiastic revolutionary mass movement to score new successes such as new construction and new products in all fields of combat and production in anticipation of the party congress.
- 3. All regional party committees and party chapters should engage in a party expansion phase in the localities to induct new party members, called party members of the fifth party congress phase. Expansion of the party within the working class in factories, enterprises, farms, in the working circles in communes and villages, and among the combatants of various armed units should be regarded as important, for vigorously expanding the party within the working class further increases the party's working class character, inducting large numbers of new party members further enhances the strength of the party, and building a strong party ensures the factor determining the victory of the revolution and, for the immediate future, ensuring successful implementation of the fifth party congress resolutions. In consultation with the party, core groups and mass organizations, first of all the youth unions and trade unions, should through their revolutionary activities examine and introduce fully qualified members of core groups, youth unions, and other associations.
- 4. Regional party committees under the Central Committee should thoroughly organize their regional party meetings in accordance with the circular of the Political Bureau. All representatives attending the party meetings should heighten the sense of responsibility, broaden the horizon of the regional party committees, actively discuss the draft political report and draft addenda of the party statute prepared by the party Central Committee, and select representatives to attend the party congress from among outstanding party members worthy of being the deputies of their regional party committees, endowed with firm political grasp and good revolutionary character, attributes, and ethics and capable of successfully summing up opinion for submission to the party congress. The meetings of regional party committees under the Central Committee should create ideological and organizational foundations that will ensure the success of the party's national representative congress.
- 5. All localities from remote provinces to the city of Phnom Penh should vigorously promote cultural, artistic, and propaganda activities while caring for the livelihood of cadres, combatants, and the working people in general, thus creating an atmosphere of contentment to promote the revolutionary activities of the masses welcoming the party's national representative congress. As for Phnom Penh, it should through all of its actual implementation deserve being the representative of the people throughout the country by properly welcoming the delegations of fraternal parties coming to attend our congress.

In order to firmly defend national independence and build the fatherland through the transition period step by step toward socialism, the whole party, people, and Armed Forces should enhance national solidarity and international solidarity, heighten the self-reliance determination, and courageously strive through thick and thin. The party's fifth national representative congress, the congress of our will, intellect, aspirations, and sentiments, will certainly be crowned with brilliant success.

PARTY INSTRUCTION ON ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET TIES

BK230710 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 21 Sep 85

[19 September instruction No 94/SLPRP CC issued by LPRP Central Committee Secretariat on celebration of 25th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations with USSR to responsible committees of ministries, state committees, party committees, central-level mass organizations, and municipal and provincial party committees throughout country]

[Text] Under the leadership of the LPRP, the Lao people of all tribes have waged a revolutionary struggle against the old and new colonialists and imperialists for national independence and freedom and eventually won complete victory, thus leading their country to advance on the path of socialism. During this period, the Soviet Union attentively supported and wholeheartedly assisted the Lao revolution.

On 7 October 1960, the Soviet Union recognized and established diplomatic relations with the neutralist government formed with the approval and support of the Lao Patriotic Front and other patriotic forces. Since then, the support and assistance of the Soviet Union for the Lao revolution has been open, direct, and increasing in all respects, thus making a great and very important contribution to strengthening our forces and enabling us to gradually defeat the enemy and win complete victory for the national-democratic revolution of Laos. Over the past 10 years in particular, or since the establishment of the LPDR, friendly relations and solidarity between Laos and the Soviet Union have entered a new period. In defending their fatherland and building socialism, the Lao people have received great and more effective support and assistance, and bilateral cooperation has been enlarged in all respects. This constitutes a very important factor for the survival and development of the current Lao revolution, as reiterated in the Lao-Soviet joint communique signed by Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan and Comrade General Secretary 'ikhail Gorbachev in the latter part of August of this year. In short, the Soviet Union has become a solid prop and catalyst pushing the Lao people to carry out the struggle to defend and build the country. This has become a factor guaranteeing our advancement toward a bright future.

In the international arena, the Soviet Union deserves to be the core of the socialist community, a solid prop of the world revolution, and a bulwark of the struggle movements for peace and international security.

Therefore, to implement strictly Political Bureau Resolution No 28 dated 14 September regarding the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Laos and the Soviet Union; to enable all cadres, party members, and people of all strata to understand profoundly the all-round growth and strength in building developed socialism and the important role of the Soviet Union in the revolution of various nations and world peace; to understand clearly the great, consistent, and effective support and assistance rendered by the Soviet Union to our revolutionary cause; to understand clearly, profoundly, and better the party's foreign policy, which states that strengthening solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community is a permanent, unchanged, and principled line of our party and state and a factor deciding the success of the cause of defending and building socialism in Laos; to do away with the ways of thinking and attitudes that run counter to clear-sighted proletarian internationalism; to oppose all enemy schemes and distortions against the Soviet Union and Laos-Soviet relations as well as against other fraternal socialist countries; to tighten and strengthen the solidarity and friendship between Laos and the Soviet Union; to uphold the complete confidence of our cadres, party members, and people in their revolutionary cause; and to fulfill joyously the task of each person, the Secretariat of the party Central Committee instructs the leading committees of various ministries, state committees, committees of the party Central Committee, central-level mass organizations, including the Laos-USSR Friendship Association, and municipal and provincial party committees to do the following:

- 1. Launch extensive and thorough propaganda campaigns on the growth and strength of the Soviet Union and its role in the world revolution and peace, on fine Lao-Soviet relations, and on Soviet assistance for Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia by holding meetings, lectures, film shows, and photo and miniature exhibitions and by promoting literary items and so forth.
- 2. Organize meetings in each province and at sites of Lao-Soviet cooperation enterprises to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Lao-Soviet diplomatic relations. In organizing these activities, Soviet experts must be invited to participate. In the capital, Vientiane, a grand meeting must be organized, the central exhibition hall opened, and meetings with Soviet experts arranged.
- 3. The Propaganda and Training Board of the party Central Committee and the Lao-Soviet Friendship Association must write editorials, commentaries, and stories on Lao-Soviet relations and Soviet assistance to Laos for this propaganda movement and must effectively and promptly utilize its mass media.
- 4. The party Central Committee Secretariat has appointed a national commission to assume responsibility for directly guiding the implementation of the Political Bureau's resolution on the celebration of the anniversary. This commission comprises the following comrades:

Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, as chairman; Comrade Khamsouk Saignaseng, member of the party Central Committee, minister, head of the state organization for coffee and tea, and chairman of the Laos-USSR Friendship Association, as vice chairman; Comrade Bolang Boualapha, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee, as member; Comrade Khambou Sounisai, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the administrative committee of Vientiane municipality, as member; Comrade Thongvin Phomvihan, member of the party Central Committee and first secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union Central Committee, as member; Comrade Phetsamon Latsasimma, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Lao Women's Federation, as member; Comrade Thitsoi Sombatdouang, alternate member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Trade Union Federation, as member; Comrade Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, chairman of the Lao Committee for the Defense of Peace and for Solidarity and Friendship with Other Nations, as member; Comrade Inpong Khagnavong, deputy chief of the party Central Committee's Foreign Relations Board and deputy minister of foreign affairs, as member; and Comrade Thongsavat Gnamani, vice chairman of the State Committee for News Agency, Newspapers, Radio, and Television, as member.

Upon receiving this instruction, the comrades in the national commission and the comrades in the party committees concerned should study and organize the strict implementation of the instruction and promptly report the results of this work to the party Central Committee.

[Dated] Vientiane, 19 September 1985

[Signed] Khamtai Siphandon, for the Secretariat of the party Central Committee

SRV SEIZES 5 TRAWLERS, 130 CREWMEN 23 SEP

BK240129 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] Vietnamese troops captured five Thai trawlers along with their 130 crewmen early yesterday morning. The trawlers were among a fleet of 12 Thai fishing boats which were fishing about 30 nautical miles off Vietnam's Big O.B. Island [placename as published] when they were fired at by a Vietnamese patrol boat. A report sent by a trawler which managed to escape and monitored by a radio station in Samut Sakhon Province yesterday did not mention if there was anybody killed or hurt in the attack.

Fishery sources quoted the report as saying that all five captured vessels were modern fishing trawlers equipped with radio transmitters and radar and sonar gear. The vessels were identified as "Thong Samrit," "Chok Prakan," "Nathi Thong 9" (all from Samut Prakan Province), "Monchai" from Samut Songkhram and "Mangkorn Kaeo 2" from Samut Sakhon. Their combined value was more than 60 million baht.

The 130 crewmen were believed to have been taken ashore by Vietnamese soldiers, the sources said.

PROGRESSIVE PARTY TO JOIN COALITION GOVERNMENT

BK210211 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Sep 85 p 1

[Excerpts] Progressive Party leader Uthai Phimchaichon said yesterday that he has accepted an offer by Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon for his party to join the coalition government. Talking to reporters at Parliament, the House Speaker said that Colonel Phairot Phanitsamai, a close aide of the Prime Minister, phoned him on Tuesday and said that the Premier would like to talk with him. He said that Gen Prem invited the Progressive Party to join the coalition.

Mr Uthai said that he accepted the Prime Minister's offer, but proposed that the Government allow live broadcasts of debates in Parliament. The Prime Minister, he added, replied that he could not make the decision himself but had to consult his Cabinet. He maintained that his suggestion was not a condition, but he thought that it would be good for the public if live broadcasts were permitted.

He denied press reports that the Prime Minister made the offer to his party because of his role in postponing a motion proposed by Social Action Party leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot, seeking a debate on the failed coup. "They are different issues," he said, adding that the coup debate was put off because members of Parliament were already exhausted and had used up their time in debating the Budget Bill.

VNA REPORTS VAN TIEN DUNG'S VISIT TO MPR

OW221809 Hanoi VNA in English 1721 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 22 -- A Vietnamese military delegation headed by Van Tien Dung, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister of national defence, paid an official friendship visit to the Mongolian people's Republic (MPR) from September 16-21 at the invitation of the MPR Ministry of Defence.

It was welcomed by Jamsrangiyn Yondon, member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Mongolia Central Committee and minister of defence; N. Namsrai, Political Bureau member and secretary of the PRPM CC; Luvsangobbo, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the PRPM CC and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; and many other high-ranking officials. Vietnamese Ambassador Tran Trung, Lao Ambassador Khamkeng Sainhakeo and Soviet military attache also attended.

The delegation laid floral tributes at the tombs of Sukhe Bator and Horlogiyn Choybalsan and laid a wreath at the monument of the Soviet Red Army.

A banquet was held on Sept. 16 by the Mongolian Ministry of defence in honour of the delegation.

Addressing the banquet, Jamsrangiyn Yondon said that Vietnam and Mongolia have the same objective — to build socialism, and oppose the imperialists, the expansionist and international reactionary forces. "The Mongolian people and Army rejoice at and are proud of the victories and outstanding achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people and Army in socialist and defending the fatherland," he stressed. [sentence as received]

In his reply, Gen. Van Tien Dung expressed his joy at the great achievements obtained by the fraternal Mongolian people and Army in their socialist construction and national defence.

On Sept. 20, Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the PRPM MPRP CC, received the Vietnamese military delegation.

The Mongolian party leader expressed the joy of the Mongolian people and their Army at the Vietnamese people's exploits and achievements in their resistance wars against the French colonialists and the U.S. imperialists in the past as well as in the national construction and defence at present.

He pointed out:

"Mongolia fully supports the Soviet Union's peace initiatives and efforts for world peace and for security in Asia. It highly values and fully supports the efforts of the three Indochinese countries aimed at defending peace and stability in the region and settling disputes by negotiations."

He expressed his belief that the Vietnamese military delegation's visit to Mongolia would certainly contribute to closely tightening the existing good relations between the peoples and armies of the two countries.

General Van Tien Dung conveyed Vietnamese party and state leaders regards to the Mongolian party and state leaders.

On this occasion, General Van Tien Dung also expressed the sincere gratitude of the Vietnamese people and Army to the Mongolian people and Army for their active support for and wholehearted assistance to the Vietnamese people. He wished the Mongolian people more and still greater achievements in building socialism and consolidating national defence.

On the occasion of the Vietnamese military delegation's visit to Mongolia, General Secretary J. Batmonh, on behalf of the Mongolian party and state, presented General Van Tien Dung, Sukhe Bator Order, the highest distinction of Mongolia, and the Military Exploit Order and Friendship Medals to members of the delegation.

The same day, General Van Tien Dung, on behalf of the Vietnamese party and state, presented the Ho Chi Minh Order to Col. Lieutenant General Jamsrangiyn Yondon, minister of national defence, and eight Military Orders, First Class, to Mongolian generals.

Earlier, on Sept. 19, the Vietnamese military delegation led by General Van Tien Dung held talks with a Mongolian military delegation led by Col. General Jamsrangiyn Yondon. The two sides informed each other of the situation of socialist construction and national defence, on the cooperation and mutual assistance between the two armies, and on issues of mutual concern. The two delegations reached complete identity of views on all questions raised at the talks and affirmed their determination to further step up the comprehensive cooperation between the two fraternal armies.

The same day, a meeting was held at the National Defence Ministry's office in honour of the Vietnamese military delegation.

During its stay in Mongolia, the Vietnamese delegation visited a number of localities, industrial establishments and army units. Everywhere it went, the delegation was warmly welcomed by the Mongolian officers, men and people.

The delegation left Ulaanbaatar yesterday successfully concluding its Mongolia visit.

SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH LAOS

OW210847 Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 21 -- A protocol on scientific and technical cooperation between Vietnam's State Commission for Science and Technology and Laos' Scientific and Technical Council has been signed in Vientiane.

Signatories were Souli Nanthavong, president of the Lao council and Dang Huu, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the Vietnamese Commission.

Dang Huu was head of a delegation of the said commission which paid a nine day visit to Laos ending last Saturday.

While in Laos, the Vietnamese guests visited several production establishments in Vientiane and Champassak Province, and had working sessions with the Lao Ministries of Agriculture, Irrigation and Cooperatives, and of Public Health.

They were warmly received by Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

NHAN DAN ON ADJUSTMENT OF PRICES, WAGES, MONEY

BK201424 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Sep 85

[19 September NHAN DAN editorial: "Implementing the Resolution of the Eighth Party Central Committee Plenum Is a Process of Firm, Urgent Struggle With Steady Steps"]

[Text] The tasks of issuing new bank notes and withdrawing and converting old bank notes have been basically completed throughout the country. A number of other concrete tasks aimed at implementing the party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution are being carried out positively. The socioeconomic situation is developing in a fine direction. Facts show that the orientation set forth by the party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution is correct and in line with the people's daily life. It is being widely supported and implemented by the entire party, people, and armed forces.

The party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution on prices, wages, and money has great revolutionary significance. It profoundly affects the whole system of our country's socioeconomic life. However, this is the beginning of a new stage of our party's economic management and supervisory tasks. The adjustment of prices, wages, and money in accordance with the spirit of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution as well as the new management system are not magic wands that can immediately improve our national economy and our people's daily life. These measures are not designed to solve all the problems of our people in the initial stage of the transitional period toward socialism. These measures are the means to help us fulfill our very important goal in developing the working people's right to collective mastery; exploiting all available potentials in labor, land, natural resources, and material and technical bases; vigorously developing the economy; stabilizing and gradually improving the people's daily life; increasing accumulations to carry out industrialization; and strengthening national defense and security.

The party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution is aimed at solving the problems of prices, wages, and money as well as the problems of the new management system. These problems seriously affect all activities of society, each individual, and each family. Implementation of this resolution requires firm capability and vast experience which we are lacking, especially in the situation of a small-scale production economy with prevailing imbalances in various aspects. For this reason, eliminating of subsidization and bureaucratism in adjusting prices, wages, and money and it shifting the economy to the socialist business and accounting system are not tasks that can be carried out swiftly or in a single drive. They are not easy and simple tasks.

Each one of us must not only firmly grasp the major points of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum resolution, but must also grasp the motto, task, and activity set forth by the resolution. Realizing the importance and complex nature of various problems, the resolution stresses: In the face of the unstable nature of the economy, the adjustment of prices, wages, and money must be carried out urgently. However, in implementing this task, concrete projects must be carefully formulated and must be combined with the building and perfecting of the new management system. All policies and the guidelines for every step of their implementation must be uniform and must anticipate positive aspects and unexpected and unfavorable economic, political, and social situations, providing preventive and remedial measures.

Trying to thoroughly understand these guiding thoughts of the party Central Committee and the Political Bureau is now a duty of every echelon, sector, and basic unit as well as of all party cadres and members. They must try to keep themselves informed of and to comply correctly with the policies on prices, wages, and money and on the renovation of the management system in accordance with the spirit of the resolution of the party Central Committee's eight plenum.

The questions of including all rational expenses in production costs and of discarding all subsidies designed to make up for losses in the national economy are also regarded as a task that must be carried out gradually and steadily in such a way as to suit our country's specific situation in order to stabilize production and life and to prepare conditions for future steps of development.

Implementing the resolution of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum gradually and steadily does not mean implementing it in a sluggish and prolonged manner. Instead, we must move urgently and resolutely toward fully implementing all the principles and requirements already outlined in the resolution of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum.

With a uniform strength, we must struggle to stabilize prices, particularly the prices of paddy and rice, in conjunction with our determined efforts to apply right from this year the policy on the state's unified control over and monopoly of the grain trade and to step up the transformation and management of the market. All sectors, particularly those having direct relations with the problems of prices, wages, and money, must quickly study these new policies and systems if they are to create favorable conditions for basic units to exercise their decision-making right in production and business and to practice socialist economic accounting and business on the basis of carrying out planning.

Observing the party and state's regulations on prices, wages, finance, and cash and striving to intensify organizational and cadre affairs activities are important factors which will contribute to ensuring successful implementation of the resolution of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum. Implementing all the new policies on prices, wages, and money urgently and resolutely by adopting steady steps in accordance with the spirit of the resolution of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum will help spur national economic development and quickly shape a new system of management with socialist economic accounting and business.

AUSTRALIA

FRENCH GUILT IN GREENPEACE BOMBING WELCOMED

BK230909 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The Australian Government says it welcomes the French Government's final admission of guilt over the sinking of the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior. The acting foreign affairs minister, Senator Evans, says Australia also welcomes France's undertaking, however belated, to conduct a thorough investigation of the whole affair.

Senator Evans said that the Australian Government expected France to act within the bounds of international law and civilized conduct and take account of world and regional opinions. He said that at the very least a full apology by the French Government was now clearly called for. The flagship of the environmental organization Greenpeace was blown up and sunk by mines in Auckland harbor in New Zealand on 10 July. A Greenpeace photographer died in the attack. Senator Evans said Australia remained appalled by the action taken by French Secret Service agents involved in the incident.

NEW ZEALAND

LANGE COMMENTS ON PALMER'S MEETINGS IN U.S.

HK231132 Hong Kong AFP in English 1058 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Wellington, Sept 23 (AFP) -- New Zealand and the United States have established "an agreement for a need to prevent further deterioration in our relationship," Prime Minister David Lange said today.

Speaking after being briefed on three days of meetings between Deputy Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer and leading Reagan administration officials in Washington, Mr Lange said he hoped the agreement would "form the basis for strengthening our relationship." His comments came as a surprise to reporters who earlier had been told the United States had rejected New Zealand's latest proposals for solving the ANZUS nuclear warships ports ban row. But Mr. Lange was ademant the "frank" Washington talks had helped produce a new working relationship with the United States.

"There was no desire on the part of the United States to have deteriorating relations with New Zealand," he said. After the first day of talks in Washington, he said, Mr. Palmer had "met with a fairly monolithic administration response" to the plan for New Zealand to assess for itself whether U.S. ships carried nuclear arms.

Administration officials had taken exception to "the categorisation of being inflexible" by Mr. Palmer at the end of that first day, he said, adding that there were then assurances that the United States was not inflexible. The U.S. warship USS Buchanan was banned from a New Zealand port early this year after Washington maintained its policy of not revealing whether its warships are nuclear armed or powered. The move sparked strong retaliation by the United States, which cut military cooperation with New Zealand and shelved the ANZUS alliance linking the two countries and Australia.

"What I am telling you is that the United States' relationship with New Zealand has gone on for one and a half centuries and they (the United States) are not going to blow it now," Mr. Lange said. He said the American decision that they would review the ANZUS alliance if nuclear warships' port access was not restored "will only be in New Zealand's interests if they do so."

The review was "not about" notice to withdraw from ANZUS but was designed to make "the arrangements more effective between the three partners while preserving the alliance." He said the United States had not rejected outright a New Zealand proposal for a non-nuclear U.S. warship to visit New Zealand.

"New Zealand went with a very genuine proposition to the U.S., which proposition is still being considered," he said, adding "it is not a closed door." The Washington talks had also "made it abundantly clear to the U.S. where we stand," he said. "They were to that extent very constructive. The extent of this government's commitment to the anti-nuclear (policy) is now known. We have been tested on our commitments to (anti-nuclear) law quite properly by the United States and remained throughout that process committed to it," he said.

LANGE SAYS FABIUS' REMARKS 'NO APOLOGY'

HK240156 Hong Kong AFP in English 0117 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Wellington, Sept 24 (AFP) -- New Zealand required much more than limited French expressions of regret over the Rainbow Warrior bombing, Prime Minister David Lange said today. Mr. Lange said comments by French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius that he was sorry for the affair were "no apology".

"The French say they are very sorry they caused this problem," Mr. Lange said.

"Their embassy (in Wellington) said Mr. Fabius is 'heart-broken' at the affair and its consequences," Mr. Lange said, referring to the translation of Mr. Fabius' statement provided to him by French Ambassador Jacques Bourgoin at a meeting yesterday. "We have had no apology over the event," the prime minister said. "But once the French accept responsibility (for the bomb attack on the vessel) the other things will fall into place."

Mr. Lange said Deputy Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer and French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas at this meeting in New York today "will help establish the processes" for considering and discussing compensation and other issues between the two countries.

Mr. Lange said there were three matters to be clarified:

- 1. The New Zealand Government must get an apology and settlement from France,
- 2. New Zealand must preserve a fair and free trial for the French agents it holds in relation to the bomb attack.
- 3. France must find those responsible for giving the orders to sink the Rainbow Warrior, said Mr. Lange.

He dismissed some of the legal opinion emanating from France which claimed that New Zealand had no right to try the two agents as "stuff that would come from a first year law student with a D-minus grade average."

Mr. Lange said there was no doubt that New Zealand can try the couple on the charges of murder, arson and conspiracy to bomb the Rainbow Warrior which had been laid against them.

MARCOS BLAMES AGITATORS IN TEACHER'S STRIKE

HK240353 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] President Marcos ordered Education Minister Jaime Laya yesterday [23 September] to file criminal charges against activist agitators who have reportedly induced public schoolteachers to go on strike. The [word indistinct] of those activist agitators have reportedly infiltrated the teachers' ranks and provoked them to (?stay) out in violation of the civil service law. According to the president, the people are in need of the teachers but were able to create enough stir among teachers (?in pressing) their economic demands. [sentence as heard] In issuing the order, the president noted that the Education Ministry has treated the teachers with kid gloves, merely warning them of violations of the law. He said the infiltrators were the ones who pressed the teachers to make more demands, impossible for the government to grant.

Mestwhile the threat by some 16,000 permanent and temporary public, elementary, and high schoolteachers in Manila, to call the strike or go on mass leave of absence yesterday, appears to have fizzled out. Education Minister Jaime Laya said press reports he has received indicate that classes on the primary and secondary school levels in Manila were proceeding normally yesterday, except in a few isolated schools. It was also reported that school principals have started marking the absences of teachers who failed to report for their classes, for possible administrative sanctions.

BAYAN MEMBERS IN CEBU FACE CHARGES AFTER STRIKE

HK230403 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] In Cebu, the military said it was readying criminal charges against 177 Bayan [New Nationalist Alliance] members and sympathizers who were arrested while allegedly putting up human barricades to stop vehicular traffic across the Cebu City-Mandaue City border during the walgang bayan [national strike] last Friday. They were released in the evening of the same day for humanitarian reasons to the custody of Cebu opposition Member of Parliament Nenita Cortez-Daluz and Sister Consuelo Marela. Military lawyers said they were preparing affidavits by the apprehending officers to support the filing of charges of public disturbance and coercion against the arrested strikers.

BUSINESS DAY ON CONTINUING POLITICAL DETENTION

HK231018 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 20 Sep 85 pp 7, 10

[By Marites Danguilan-Vitug]

[Text] With the imposition of martial law in 1972, political detention as an instrument of state control was in a sense resurrected from the colonial era. Four years after the lifting of martial law in 1981, political detention is still the government's "most widely used form of repression," now institutionalized through a series of presidential decrees. The president removed the trappings of martial law but kept intact the sweeping powers he derived from his eight-year emergency rule. He can make laws, arrest persons and place them to "preventive detention" for an indefinite period of time. "M- decree-making powers are part of the fight against subversives and terrorists, and not because of my personal wish to stay in power," President Marcos then said in a press conference in May 1984.

Today, the country has more than 700 political prisoners in 108 military camps nationwide, according to the Task Force Detainees [TFD]. This brings to a total more than 70,000 persons arrested and detained since Sept. 21, 1972. The TFD records that a few weeks after martial law declaration, 30,000 were arrested by the military. During the "formal" martial period, 1972-1981, TFD said the military stockades were filled beyond capacity with political prisoners. A new detention center had to be built in Metro Manila. The Bicutan Rehabilitation Center which opened in 1976 was meant to be a "showcase of humanitarian treatment and rehabilitation."

But President Marcos, in 1977, denied the existence of political detainees in the country. Three years before, he had stated in a nationwide broadcast that of "5,234 people under detention in direct consequence of martial law proclamation ... 1,165 are political detainees." According to TFD, the Marcos government changed the definition of the term "political detainee" as a means of erasing from the records their existence. In December 1974, Marcos categorized persons "charged under ... the Anti-subversion Act ... (or) ... with rebellion, sedition or insurrection ..." as political detainees. In 1977, however, he referred to them as people "held for their political beliefs" and not on suspicion that they may have violated national security laws. Political detention has thus become the most widely used form of repression under the Marcos government, many in the opposition agree. But if recent TFD figures are any indication, political detention may be giving way to killings and disappearances.

After martial law, the number of political prisoners reached a high of 1,000 in 1983 and decreased to 851 in 1984. At the same time, those "salvaged" or summaril executed reached 538 in 1984; some 158 were "made to disappear." For 1985, the number of disappearances has risen to about 600. This has prompted TFD to form an organization to pressure the government to halt the disappearances -- FIND of Families or Victims of Involuntary Disappearance.

Formally established Sept. 16, FIND will demand that government produce its members' missing relatives. "We can surmise that they were arrested by the military because they were suspected of being critics of the government ... The trouble is the military denied having arrested them," a FIND spokesperson said. The TFD, in a report, said: "It (disappearances) seems to reflect a scheme of government to seek information on subversive suspects while the victim is held incommunicado or to eliminate dissenters without going through the process of arrest." Moreover, the TFD report pointed out, the absence of the victims' bodies could provide a "convenient shield" against possible charges of culpability for such crimes.

The death penalty is "increasingly taking the form of unexplained disappearances, extrajudicial executions and political murders," the church-backed detainee monitoring organization siad. It cited the 1977 Stockholm conference on the abolition of death penalty wherein the Philippine Government prevented itself from using this form of capital punishment.

Cases of disapperances in the country generally fall into three categories:

- -- a political detainee arrested where there are no witnesses, is never found again;
- -- bodies of political detainees or dissenters are found dead in some isolated spot apparently victims of foul play; this is usually called "salvaging";
- -- a political detainee, normally arrested without a PDA [Preventive Detention Act] or an appropriate warrant, is kept in complete isolation for a certain period before he is produced; the military normally denies having the person in their custody.

TFD officials attribute the decrease in the number of political detainees and the rise in killings and disappearances to the higher costs of maintaining prisoners. "It is more expensive keeping them in prison because the government has to spend for their food, accommodation, etc. Maybe that's why they (political offenders) are killed instead," one TFD official said (BUSINESS DAY, July 4, 1985). Most of the detainees are peasants and workers. The sentiment held in common by the political detainees, according to the TFD, is the desire to "uphold national freedom and democracy, to defend their rights...and to better their conditions in life." Theoretically, political detainees are placed behind bars to ensure their presence in court. But, TFD pointed out, Marcos used detention as a means to immobilize the detainees "by setting them apart from society and depriving them of their rights." Denied the right to bail, many of the political detainees could remain behind bars for an indefinite period of time.

Human rights groups have protested the President's sweeping arrest powers. In response, Marcos issued in May 1981 a letter of instructions [LOI] setting guidelines for arrests. He later specified in a separate LOI that all cases involving national security should first pass through the proper judicial authorities. The judge, upon finding "probable cause," would issue a warrant of arrest. After the arrest and inquest, Marcos would issue a presidential commitment order (PCO) and the arrested person would be detained until the case was decided. The LOI numbered 1125-A also provided that the detainee could be ordered released much sooner by the President or his representative.

But a later LOI, 1211, signed March 1982 negates the provisions of LOI 1125-A. It dispenses with the need for a warrant of arrest in specified instances. In August 1983, defense and military authorities admitted that about 1,000 persons covered by 210 PCOs had been arrested since its implementation. A Supreme Court decision in April 1983 upheld President Marcos's power to issue a PCO "as the exclusive prerogative of the President and may not be declared void by the courts..." Widespread opposition to the PCO has brought increasing pressure on Marcos to abolish it. Catholic bishops called the PCO "unequivocally immoral" and Jaime Cardinal Sin labeled it an "abomination."

In a masterstroke, Marcos abolished the PCO in August 1983 but retained his executive power to effect the arrest and detention of persons suspected to be threats to national security. The new name: preventive detention action (PDA). The PDA gives absolute authority to the President to order the arrest and detention of persons who he thinks are committing or are likely to commit acts detrimental to national security. The PDA also bars the judiciary from inquiring into the legality of the arrest and detention. Chief Justice Felix Makasiar recently stated, the President precedes the courts in national security cases.

But the PDA apparently did not suffice for Marcos. Following the unprecedented antigovernment protests after the Aquino murder in August 1983, two more decrees -- PDs [Presidential Decree] 1834 and 1835 -- were made public in September which it turned out had been signed by Marcos as early as Jan. 16, 1981, a day before he lifted martial law. PD 1834 converts national security crimes, including attendance in demonstrations, into capital offenses. PD 1835, the new Anti-subversion Law, imposes capital punishment on those charged with subversion. President Marcos, has, thus, legalized arbitrary arrests and detentions through his various decrees and orders. Legal minds contend that he has also "shaped the 1973 Constitution into a document that provides the legal justification and basis for his rule."

TRENDS, a 1984 TFD report on political detention, cited that over 2,000 general orders, presidential decrees and letters of instructions "preserve the trappings of martial rule." The judicial system, instead of acting as a body independent of the President, has yielded to him. Critics say faith in the Surpeme Court and the lower courts has sunk low.

The recent Bishops-Businessmen's Conference nationwide sociopolitical survey affirmed this observation. The Supreme Court's performance was noted 40 percent. It was "notably low," only 31 percent - 32 percent, in Mindanao. Four years after the lifting of martial rule, its effects still remain. For, as many have already said they see no difference between the martial law era and the present.

Political Arrests

Year	Metro Manila	Luson	Visayas	Mindanao	Total
1977	414	343	214	378	1,351
1978	320	202	193	905	1,620
1979	265	183	111	1,402	1,961
1980	170	125	141	526	962
1981	52	304	255	766	1,377
1982	226	795	76	814	1,911
1983	185	152	108	1,643	2,088

Update on the Number of Political Arrests

Region	Number of Arrests	Period Covered (1984)
Metro Manila Luzon	293 146	January-June
Visayas	111	January-June January-May
Mindanao	640	January-June
Total	1,190	

Source: TFDP

CENTRAL LUZON MILITANTS URGE U.S. BASES PULLOUT

HK240754 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Sep 85 p 8

[By Efren P. Molina]

[Excerpt] Balana, Bataan -- Militant groups in Central Luzon urged in a rally here last Saturday the dismantling of United States military bases in the country and the abrogation of all unequal laws, treaties, agreements, and decrees between the Philippines and the United States. The rallyists, numbering about 5,000 led by lawyer Dante Ilaya of Bagong Alyansang Makabayan Bataan, denounced the alleged "U.S.-Marcos conspiracy" in oppressing the Filipino people, suppressing their basic rights, and exploiting the country's rich natural resources for their partnership's interest." They urged a stop to the dumping of U.S. surplus goods, "agricultural garbage," and the imminent operation of the nuclear power plant in Bataan.

The rallyists dispersed peacefully at about 6:30 p.m. after burning the effigies. They had converged earlier in Balanga town from two points -- one group from Mariveles in the south and the other from Orani in the north. Col Lorenzo M. Mateo, deputy PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] regional commander in Central Luzon who is also the Task Force Samat commander, and Col Jose S. Andaya, Bataan PC-INP commander, adopted a "just ignore them" policy which accounted for the peacefulness of the rally.

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September 26, 1985

